OIPE JC37
DEC 09 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07982.0002-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9/B
Hedda
12/12/02

In re Application of:

Tanweer AHSAN et al.

Application No.: 09/555,641

Filed: October 2, 2000

For: TREATING PARTICULATE ALKALINE EARTH METAL CARBONATES

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: R. A. Blanton

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated June 4, 2002, the period to reply having been extended by four months by a request for extension of time and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 4-5, 7-15, as follows:

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, and the alkaline earth metal carbonate comprises calcium carbonate.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, and the particulate material has a surface area of from $3m^2.g^{-1}$ to about $13m^2.g^{-1}$.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

on December 4, 2002
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Barry D. Biddle

Enclosures:

1. Petition for 4 month Extension of Time – 1 page
2. Amendment - 7 pages
3. Postcard

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